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THE NEWS IN LONDON. ENGLISH INTEREST IN AMERICA CON-

FINED TO HOPES OF PLUNDER. MR. GLADSTONE ON FAIR TIADE AND RENT RE-DUCTION THE NEXT LIBERAL LEADER-LORD HARTINGTON'S NEW ATTITUDE AND WHAT

MR. CHAMBERGAIN THINKS OF IT-MR. BLAINE AND LOUIS KORSUTH-AN ANARCHIST CARDINAL-BISMARCK AND BROWNING -ART AND LITERA-RY NOTES. IBY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.

Copyright ; 1888 : By The New York Tribune LONDON, Dec. 31.-The portions of Mr. Lowell's panegyric on President Cleveland telegraphed ere will certainly augment the number of the President's British supporters. They were already to be reckened by millions since this American President proposed to open American ports to British Free Trade. This morning's "Times," in the course of its review of the year, recurs to the President's message once more, and cautiously but clearly affirms that though it is not based theoretical'y on Free Trade grounds, a great advance toward Free Trade will be made if Mr. Cleveland's policy is adopted. This is "The Times's" sole reference to American affairs in a five column es ay on the events of 1887, except the Fisheries question. That also is characteristic. question," says the leading British journal, " has been exacerbated by the violence of some American politicians, but the Government at Washington have shown moderation and courtesy. There is some ground for hope that the Joint Commission

Mr. Gladstone's declarations at Dover about Protection are exciting a certain amount of unensiness among his Free Trade friends. Not that they think he means to medify his Free Trade opinions or policy so far as England is concerned. What alarms them is what is beginning to be celled his dispensation to the Irish Nationalists. Said Mr Gladstone in substance: support Fair Trade if they like without impairing their obligations to us or breaking their connec tion with the Liberal party for Home Rule purposes." Now this is understood to signify more then meets the ear. Mr. Gladstone has full infermation of what the Nationalists desire. They desire Home Rule in a shape which would enable them to levy duty on English manufactures imported into Ireland. Mr. Gladstone would doubtless say to them: "I think that a foolish policy: but if it is the wish of the Irish representatives I do not feel entitled to resist it." This is of course conjecture. It is not Mr. Gladstone's way to open discussion of a creat subject by a complete statement of the policy which he supposes events may ultimately compel or induce him to adopt. But this Dover speech will bear remembering.

Mr. Gladstone's comments on the reduction of Irish rents, as reported from Paris, are rather He was interviewed by M. Philippe Daryl, whose book on Ireland Mr. Gladstone has praised highly, who is a correspondent to " L Temes," and who is in fact none other than that M. Paschal Gronsset, who styled himself Foreign Minister under the Commune and lived long after in English exile. What is startling is that Mr. Gladstone throughout the interview treats this edjet as an edjet of the Ministry. His London organ declared it impossible that he could have sold this. He does, however, say it many times over, and this idea is so imbedded in the whole conversation that no mere reporter's mistake can account for it. Mr. G'adstone speaks of a 14 per cent reduction by a stroke of the pen of the Ministry. He calls it a simple administrative measure He says Parliament was not consulted. finally he repeats that it was done by stroke of pen, without either law or discussion, by an administrative decision. His tone throughout is one of exultation and he winds up with; " The Tory Cabinet had already alienated the tenants. it has set the landlords against it." Irish landlords are meditating some sort of protest against the recent wholesale reduction of rent by the Land Comm'ssion. Whether this protest will take the shape of a Parliamentary attack on the Ministry is doubtful. The Ministry are not responsible, technically at least, for the action of the

to an accusation of bad faith against the Ministry. The clause of the act under which this sweeping measure was put in force excited distrust when proposed. Its landlord opponents were then pacified, they allege, by assurances that the act was not intended for use except to a very limited extent. The victims, as they consider themselves, get but cold comfort from their friends in the press. Tory journals with few exceptions either approve this performance or take refuge in silence.

The English sometimes have odd notions delicacy. They are seizing the occasion of Mr. Gladstone's absence to discuss the question who would succeed him as Liberal leader should he never come back. Only three or four names are ever mentioned. Sir William Harcourt will doubtless some day lead the Liberal party in the House of Commons, where his gladiatorial talent is of service. Leading the whole Liberal party with all its deep convictions and enthusiasms is a different matter. Mr John Morley would supply what is thought a missing element in Sir W. Harcourt, but practical politicians say Mr. Morley is not practical enough. Lord Rosebery is the man most Liberals are said really to look to: partly because Mr. Gladstone named him his suc cessor and partly because he combines more admittedly necessary qualities of leadership than any other who can be suggested. All this assumes that the two Liberal sections are not to be re-

Another question beginning to be asked is what Mr. Chamberlain thinks of Lord Hartington's recent declarations. Lord Hartington since Mr. Chamberlain's departure has taken up an attitude to his old colleagues which they regard as wholly Does Mr. Chamberlain approve it? Will adopt it when he comes back? If he does not, may not his relations to the Liberal party be considerably modified? Such are some of the queries your guest's absence provokes. Perhaps you can persuade him to answer them.

An interview is likely to take place between Mr. Blaine and Louis kossuth. A letter reaches me from Italy covering an extract from a letter written by Kossuth's sister, saying: "I spoke to my brother about Mr. Blaine. He said he should be very glad to see him, not only as a distinguished an but as an American, but hesitated to ask him to come unless assured that Mr. Blaine would care to make his acquaintance." Kossuth is now living at Turin, eighty-six years old, and in excellent health. He walks four hours a day and has apparently no infirmity of old age. But he sees alversations could be more interesting than one between the great Hungarian of the past and the

Mr. Manning's death has hardly been noticed in London. The leading journals of this city are often curiously provincial, and leave it to their so-called provincial rivals to express English opinion on foreign topics. The best eulogy I have seen on Mr. Manning is in " The Manchester Guardian. " He was able to do a work," says that paper,
" during his brief fourteen months at the Treasury which will give him a prominent rank with the most distinguished of his predecessors. His public papers were peculiarly strong, clear and statesman-like, and attracted unusual attention at home and

his friends by announcing himself a convert to

the teachings of Anarchy. "Every man," says right to the food necessary to sustain life. So strict is this right that it prevails over all positive laws of property. Necessity has no law. A starving man has a natural right to his neighbor's Now that this archiepiscopal sanction to theft has been published the English, who never liked Cardinal Manning, are asking what Rome will say to such doctrine.

No satisfactory explanation is yet given of the burning of the Grand Theatre. The managers think this one of the worst blows they have had, since though no lives were lost the fire reduces the number of playgoers at the best season, Daily Telegraph" has started a fund to relieve the 300 people thus thrown out of employment. It gives £50 and Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild £50.

The usual winter exhibitions open on Monday at the Royal Academy and Grosvenor Gallery, with private views of both to-day. The Academy is notable for a small but fine collection of Venetian. Dutch and Spanish masters and some good examples of Turner, Gainsborough and Constable. The Grosvenor undertakes to represent a century of British art, from 1753 to 1853, and is strongest of all in Hogarths.

"The Standard" in reviewing the literature of the year expresses the opinion that among the younger generation of novelists Mr. Marion Crawford has perhaps made the greatest advance.

Mr. Browning has received the unusual compliment of a message from Prince Bismarck, whose love for Englishmen is not generally supposed to be excessive. The Imperial Chancellor sent the poet his best wishes and congratulations, describing himself as one of his admirers and expressing vented him from reading Mr. Browning's last volume. This genial Christmas greeting was brought to Mr. Browning by Mr. Richmond, who has finished his portraits of Prince Bismarck and Princess Bismarck, the English Ambassador and Lady Ermyntrude Malet and others, and returned to London. A new and complete edition of Mr. Browning's poems in sixteen volumes will be published next year by Messrs. Smith & Elder. Like a complete Tennyson which Messrs. Maemillan announce, this series will appear monthly. The number of complete yet incomplete editions Tennyson is already considerable.

THE CROWN PRINCE'S MALADY. DR. MACKENZIE HAS NEVER ADMITTED THAT IT

IS CANCER. LONDON, Dec. 31.-In an interview to-day, Dr. Mackenzie stated that he was greatly pleased with the improvement in the condition of the Crown Prince Frederick William. Dr. Mackenzie said he had never admitted that the disease from which the Crown Prince is suffering is a cancer. The only statement he had made which could be so construed was last November, when he said the new growth was apparently cancer-like. The microscope, by the use of which alone can the nature of the disease be ascertained, so far shows that it is not mailgn. The malignant symptoms manifested in November have passed away. Dr. Mackenzie said, however, that if the disease is not cancer it certainly is very protracted.

THE LORD GOUGH SAFE IN PORT. TEMPESTUOUS VOYAGE-PASSENGERS NOT AL

LOWED ON DECK FOR EIGHT DAYS. QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 31.-The British steamer Lord lough, from Philadelphia December 15, arrived her The Lord Gough experienced terrible weather on the passage. For eight days the passengers were not illowed on the upper docks. The hatches were batallowed on the upper docks. The hatches were bar-tened down, but despite this precaution a quantity of water penetrated below the steerage from the seas shipped by the steamer. To add to the miseries of the voyage, the oil gave out, and at night everything was in darkness. Alt the coal in the starboard bunk-ers was consumed, and the steamer, when she got in, had a heavy list to port.

FEARFUL EXPLOSION AT AMOY. FIFTY SCLDIERS AND SEVERAL HUNDRED CIVILIANS

KILLED-A FOURTH OF THE CITY DESTROYED. immense damage. The force of the explosion was very great, and a fourth of the buildings of the town were laid in ruins. Fifty soldiers were blown to atoms and several hundred inhabitants were killed.

ated on an island of the samenum nearly opposite the island of Formosa. It is built on a declivity sloping to the harbor and, including its suburbs, is some nine miles in circumference. The streets are narrow and unclean, but wany of the buildings are of extraordinary size. The merchanis of Amoy are distinguished for their enterprise and are considered among the wealthlest in the Empire. The city was captured by the British on August 26, 1441, and by the treaty of Nanking its port was opened to their trade. The oppulation—mostly employed in the coasting trade—is about 350,000. ated on an island of the samen im- nearly opposite th

TESTING OCEAN CURRENTS. BUOY NO. 786 PICKT OF NEAR THE SPOT WHERE IT

tion of Professor Ponchet, and with the participation of the Municipal Council of Paris, a number of buoys, some of them in the form of wooden casks and others in the shape of copper globes, each being numbered and containing a paper marked with a corresponding number, the latter being hermetically scaled in a glass ube and containing instructions in ten different languages by which the finder may forward it to th

studying the currents of the Atlantic Ocean. On October 5, in latitude 36° 33° north, longitude 51° 50' west, Captain Bissett, of the schooler John McLaggan, of Chatham, N. B., picked up one of the buoys numbered "786," extracted the paper and turned it in at the Boston Hydrographic office to-day for transmission.

Transmission.

Judging from such facts as are at hand it would seem that its movement had been very small, or else that the currents form an eddy in the vicinity of the Azores, which with the prevailing winds have kept the buoy in one spot.

RESIGNATION OF M. DE MAHY. Paris, Dec. 31 .- M. de Mahy, Minister of Marine in M. Tirard's catine', which was formed on December 12, has tendered his re-ignation.

CASHIER AND \$34,300 GONE.

PLIGHT OF MARCUS W. RASBACH WITH FUNDS OF A

HERKIMER BANK.

HERKIMER, N. Y., Dec. 31.—The trusted and popular cashler of the Herking National Bank, Marcus W. Rasbach, has absconded with over \$34,000. About twenty years ago Robert Earl, now Judge Earl, of the Court of Appeals; his brother, Samuel Earl; William Smith and Marcus W. Rasbach formed a co-partnership and organized a private bank. Rasbach was appointed cashier. About three years ago the partners decided wind up the affairs of the bank and change it into a State bank. This was done, and Rasbach was appointed cashier of the new bank. There was left in the old partnership about \$24,000 in assets and se curities, which was made a reserve fund to pay all utstanding liabilities and claims aganst the old bank. This money was entrusted to Rasbach's keeping, with instructions to pay it out as needed. It is thought that Rasbach began speculating in stocks about a year ago. His operations were carried on through a bucket shop in Herkimer and Vermilys & Co., of New York. His investments were unfortunate, and in order to cover the shortages he used the money of the bank until he had become so deeply involved he realized kimer on Decemb 13 and has not been there since His absence led the other officers to investigate. I became apparent to them that Rasbach was an ember zier. The total amount stolen will not exceed \$34,500.
The bank is amply able to stand this loss. The property apparently belonging to Rasbach in sight will considerably reduce the sum appropriated by him. Lasbach used the securities to cover margins in his speculations, and several of them were deposited with Vermilye & Co. On December 20 his margin with that firm amounted to about \$10,000, which was the 10 per cent required by brokers from a customer whose speculations are of the margintude of Rasbach's. Last evening Judge Harding granted an attachment on this deposit in favor of the Herkimer hank and Hadley Jones started for New-York on the night train. This morning he served the attachment on Vermilye & Co. One day last week Rasbach appeared at the office of Vermilye & Co. and drew \$1.200, which was the sum placed to his field in excess of the amount he was required to been on leposit to cove his margins, since that hour he had not been seen by any one who knows him. He may have find to Canada or sailed for some other foreign c. y. In addition to his banking business be care Jone grocery and provision stere in hydron. This jurning an attachproperty apparently belonging to Rasbach in sight will

bound "cannon-ball" trains on the Cincinnati 1 P. M. at Summit, Kentucky, about twenty miles north of the Tennessee and Kentucky State line. known to have been killed outright and many injured. The names of the killed and injured

CINCINNATI. Dec. 31 .- To-day an accident happened on the Cincinnati Southern Railroad near Greenwood, Ky. The following account is furnished by the authorities of the Cincinnati South-

" An accident on the Cincinnati Southern Railroad occurred to-day. The limited trains Nos. 1 and 2 came into collision about 1:50 p.m. near Greenwood; the accident was caused by conductor and engineer misreading their orders. They are both among the oldest employes. None of the passengers were injured. On the south-bound train the baggage master and mail agent were killed; on the north-bound train the baggage master was killed and the fireman badly injured. The mail and baggage cars were destroyed and the smoking-cars of both trains were badly damaged."

WRECK OF THE ERIE EXPRESS.

FIVE PERSONS KILLED, ELEVEN HURT. DOUBLE-HEADER PREIGHT TRAIN RUNNING IN

DISOBEDIENCE OF ORDERS. PITTSBURG, Dec. 31.-The fast Chicago expres on the New-York, Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroad, consisting of two sleepers and five day coaches, came into collision with freight train, No. 23, made up of two engines and sixty cars, three miles west of Meadville at 8 o'clock this morning. Five persons were killed and eleven injured. The train men killed are:

GEORGE, WILLIAM - Engineer on the freight train. HUMES, EDWIN-Fireman on the freight engine. FWAN, E. 1. - Firemeer on the Chicago express. IRWIN, ARTHUR-Fireman on the Chicago express.

A commercial traveller of the name of Steven died after being taken from the wreck. His body and that of Fireman Humes have been recovered and are at a Meadville undertaking shop, but the brought to Meadville and taken to hospitals at 2:30 this afternoon. They were seated in the smeking car, which was literally ground to kindremained on the track and their occupants escaped uninjured. The Cincinnati sleeper had fourteen and the Chicago sixteen passengers, who are all safe. The wounded are:

safe. The wounded are:

BOYNTON, JOS-FH-Express messenger; home, Meadville; injuries serions; he is delirious.

FAULK, PHILIP—san Francisco; right arm fractured,
MALONE, S. A.—Saiamanca, N. Y; right leg broken.

BUREN, APOLPH—Chemmati; both legs crushed.

HOLDEN, H. E.—New York | leg crushed.

WINER, ADOLPH—Leg broken.

PATERSON, A. HAZEN—Mi bilefield; leg crushed.

O'BRIEN, MCHAEL—Buffalo; bot; slightly bruised.

NEWT N. G. N.—Singleiouse, Penn.; leg broken.

FILANCHARD, DAVIE—TRUSVIIIs, Penn.; leg broken.

FRENCH, CHARLES C.—Sterling, Mass.; leg broken.

The physicians think none of the wounded will

The physicians think none of the wounded will gineers leaving Meadville yard in advance of their orders. They were ordered to leave the yard soon as the express arrived. They went in advance of its arrival. When Yardmaster Drecker saw that they were gone he boarded a switch engine and under all steam followed them, but was unable to overtake the freight. Fireman McFarland was on the head freight engine and escaped without a scratch, but has no idea of how he did

three engines in a solid jam on the track. The baggage car and smoker are smashed to splinters. Edwards, of Correct, of Lefferson. KNAPP, of Delaware, of Marinson, of Kings. Edwards, of Orleans. Savory, of Caynes. The new press car is but slightly injured, though it ground both baggage and smoker to bits. Its trength undoubtedly saved the day coaches from telescoping the smoker.

The first news of the wreck came to Meadville by trainmen on the Meadville and Linesville Railroad, running parallel and passing soon after the collision. Superintendent Delawater hastened to Superintendent Brown, of the New-York, Pennsylvania and Ohio, and offered the assistance of his train, just in to convey physicians to the wreck, but a special train was rady in a short time the New-York, Pennsylvania and Ohio and rehef was hastened with all possible speed. The ex-

PAILROAD ACCIDENTS ELSEWHERE, TRAINS CRASH TOGETHE IN THE BLINDING STORM -SEVEN LIVES LOST.

day on the Utah and Northern Railway, near the City of Dillon, North, which resulted in the death of one man, and the serious injury of another, besides heavy damages to railroad property. It was caused by the breaking away of a long train of coal cars at Spring Hill, sixty miles distant, the grade being downward. After running wild that distance it ran into the freight train. Fireman Patrick McShane was instantly killed and Engineer John Sweeney was seriously hart. The cars of both trains were completely wrecked.

Cmr ago, Dec. 30.-The night express for Milwaukee that left Chicago at 10:30 to-night over the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Pau! smashed into a freight train at Shermerville, Ill., in a blinding snow-storm. The engine and mail car of the passenger train were deraile with several freight cars, making a had wreck and giving the passengers a severe shaking up. No lives were lost, but Engineer Little was hurt seriouly, and a fireman, name unknown, probably fatalty.

Kours, Ind., Dec. 31. - Another wreck occurred on the line of the Chicago and Atlantic Railroad, six miles from this place, near the crossing of the Louisville, New-Albany and t bicago, and Chicago and Indiana Coa railroads, at Wilders, Ind., by two sections of train railroads, at Wilders, Ind., by two sections of train No. 86, a fast stock train going east, the first section having slackened speed for the crossing and the second section following caose. Being unable to see the first section on account of the blanding wind and snow storm it went crashing into the rear end, demoishing the engine and caboose. One car of cattle was destroyed. The cattle were burned. The rear blackman was burned to a crisp. His name was L. Lyman, of fluntington, Ind. All that could be found of his remains was a portion of one of his lower limbs. He was about thirty-two years of age and uncouried. Conductor Jackson, of the first section, and the engineer and fireman of the second section barely escaped with their lives.

FOURTEEN BODIES IN THE CELLAR.

WHAT A SHERIFF'S POSSE FOUND AT THE DESERTED RANCH OF A HALF-BREED.

PIERRE, Dak., Dec. 31 (Special). - Up to two weeks ago half-breed named Lablant kept a ranch in a lenely spet on Willew Creek. Black Hills travellers used fre-quently to stop there ever night. Many people who left here for points in the Hills never heard of again. A few days some men living on ranches adjelning Lablant caught him running off their cattle. A pesse was organized here and started in pursuit. When the men reached Lablant's ranch they found it empty. In leeking through the place one of the posse found a trap-door in front of bed in one of the rosms. Upon being pried open it was found to be hung on hingos and so arranged as to drop when a cord was pulled. The cord was fast-ned to a bolt under

Orange County, at 11 p. m. withdrew as a candidate for Speaker and announced that he should vote for Fremont Cole. This announcement had a good deal of effect in inducing several Assemblymen to pledge their votes to Mr. Cole. Mr.

Ainsworth said in explanation of his action: "I could no longer afford to be considered as the tail of Mr. Husted's kite. My supporters had been gradually leaving me owing to this idea and

Mr. Ainsworth was followed over to Mr. Cole by Mr.Coon, his fellow member from Oswego County. Nearly all of General Husted's chief supporters were preparing at midnight to leave Albany. Conressman Sherman, of Utica, acknowledged that start for Washington to-morrow morning. Senator Pitts said that he should return to Media to-morrow night. It is said that Senator Pitts, ex-Senator Hamilton Harris, of Albany, and Judge M'Amoreaux, of Saratoga; early this evening advised General Husted to withdraw as a candidate.

Up to midnight, however, Mr. Husted had not taken their advice, but was placidly smoking before his coal fire, apparently forgetful of political The Republican Senators say that they propose

to elect Senator Henry R. Low as president pro tem, and John S. Kenyon as Clerk of the Senate. The Republican Assemblymen are agreed upon Cuarles A. Chickering for Clerk.

PLEDGING THEIR VOTES TO MR. COLE. PROMISES GIVEN IN PERSON BY THIRTY

WHAT POLITICIANS SAY OF THE CANVASS-GENERAL HUSTED SPENDS THE EVENING TELLING STORIES TO HIS PRIENDS. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TR BUNE.]

ALBANY, Dec. 31. -It requires thirty-seven votes to secure a nomination for speaker in the Repubhean Assembly caucus. When the hour of 6 struck to-night Fremont Cole had received the promise, Assemblymen, that they would vote for him for Speaker. All the Assemblymen who thus gave their pleiges were in A bany to-day and entered Mr. Cole's room in the sight of the Republican politicians and newspaper men there gethered and had publicly expressed their intention of voting for Mr. Cole. Below are their

BAUCUS, of Renaselaer, BROWN, of Otsego.
BRUNDAGE, of Stauben.
CHENEY, of Cattarancus, CHENEY, of Condaga.
CROMWELL, of Richmond CROSHY, of New-York.
DAVIS, of WAYNE.
DEWIST, of User.
DINERART, of Columbia.
EMERY, of Erol.
FOUT, of Washington.
FR. 68T, of Chemiango.
GALLAGHER, of Eric.
GALLUP, of Onondaga.

Hamilton, of New-York.
Huntting, of Sundik.
Johnson, of Onomlaga.
Knapp, of Delaware.
Latimer. of Toga.
Lewis, of Broome.
Morgan, of New-York.
Nixon, of Chantauqua.
Prime, of Essox.
Saxton, of Wayne
Tallmador, of Kings.
Wiffpele, of Cayna,
Yates, of Schousetady.
Youngman, of Albany.

To the thirty names, of course, should be added the name of Mr. Cole himself, which brings up the number of his supporters visible in Albany to 31 nembers, or within six votes of a nomination.

Mr. Cole said at 6 o'clock : " I have ju .t received telegram from Mr. Reitz, of Brooklyn, and from Mr. Slable, of Putnam, aenouncing that they will

vote for me for Speaker." Senator Hendricks, manager of Mr. Cole's canrass, said: "In addition to those who have come here to-day and aunounced them selves openly as for Mr. Cole we have telegraphic dispatches and letters from Republic in Assemblymen, still at their homes or on their way to Albany, which show that Mr. Cole will have the following add tional votes:

EDWARDS, of Orleans.
b.NZ, of Tompsins.
Framemery, of St. Lawrence.
KEMBALL, of St. Lawrence.
HUGHES, of Lewis.
W.Pho.

"That makes thirteen additional votes. I see all more votes but those I have mentioned are unequivocally for Cole."

aged all day by the current that rau against him. There were Assemblymen arriving by every train, but nearly all of them went at once to Mr. Cole's room. The conductors of Mr. Cole's canvass-Senator Hendricks, O. (1 Warren, of Buffalo; Charles S. Francis, of Proy, and Ernest H. Crosby, were elated over the additions to Mr. Cole's forces, and a great deal of goom suddenly invaded the roms of General Husted. Mislortune followed misfortune till the General's friends could not count above nineteen Assemblymen who were openly opposed to Mr. Cole, counting the supporters of Mr. Husted and Mr. Amsworth in one body

nineteen men were:

DONALDSON, of Saratoga.
GRIPPEN, of Saratoga.
HADLEY, of Franklin.
MASE, of Futchess.
PLATE, of Datchess.
McEvov, of Harkiner.
McKexzu. of Geneves.
SMITH, of Sailly a.a. BROWNELL of THISBE BERRY, of Westchester, HUSEED, at Westchester, CHARK, of Mestchester, CLARK, of Livingston, CCON, of Oswere, Cheswealt, of Yates.

The supporters of Mr. Amsworth had shrunk to

three members-himself, Mr. Hadley, of Franklin, and Mr. Coon, of Oswego -and it was well known that the fatter desired to pledge his vote to Mr. Cole, and would do so as soon as his brother member from Oswego, Mr. Ainsworth, was out of the race for the Speakership.

One of the episodes of the day was the reported sending of a letter by Mr. Ainsworth to General Husted expressing his intention of throwing the votes he controlled for Mr. Cole. The general interpretation of this act was that Mr. Ainsworth desired General Husted to throw all his forces for himself (Ainsworth) in the desperate hope of defeating Mr. Cole.

General Husted was gallantly supported by Senator Pitts, of Medina: Congressman Sherman and C. W. Hackett, of Utica; Assemblyman Manville, of Whitehall, and Delcour S. Potter, of Saratoga Toward evening, however, General Husted's followers generally desisted from effort for him, and scenningly gave up the struggle. The General's rooms had a deserted appearance, there being few callers upon him, while Mr. Cole's headquarters were crowded with Assemblymen, Senators, and Republican politicians.

Mr. Husted looked discouraged and it is reported in good authority said to Delcour S. Potter, one of the managers of his canvass: "You might as well go home ; I am beaten."

Mr. Potter entered Mr. Cole's headquarters and advancing to him said : "Mr. Coie, I want to shake hands with the winner. I am going home." Congressman Sherman in effect admitted that

General Husted was defeated, and said in relation to it: "Mr. Husted did not make as thorough a canvass as he should have done. Mr. Cole was travel ing up and down the State for two months seeking votes. Husted did not do any travelling till about two weeks ago and then Cole had the votes and Husted could not get them." Isaac V. Baker, one of the Rattroad Commission ers, and a strong personal friend of General

Husted, said as he stood at the door of the Husted, said as he stood at the door of the Delavan House with his carpetbag in hand ready to start for his home at Counstocks: "I guess they have got Jim down. I am going home."

A ranger went about the corndors of the Delavan House at 9 o'clock that deneral Husted had withdrawn as a candidate. This rumor gained additional credence when it was learned that the General had said to the newspaper men that he would have important news for them at 10:30 o'clock. It was generally believed that at this time he would amounce his withdrawal from the can-

ment was obtained and the goods in the store were levied on. Rasbach left other debts in and about Herkimer, the amount of which is not known.

THE SPEAKERSHIP CANVASS.

MR. AINSWORTH WITHDRAWS FROM THE CONTEST.

ELEVEN PERSONS KILLED ON THE CINCINNATI SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

NORTH AND SOUTH BOUND TRAINS IN COLLISION —MANY PERSONS INJURED.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Dec. 31—North and south bound "cannon-ball" trains on the Cincinnati

A LETTER FROM CONGRESSMAN FIRCH. ME URGES REPUBLICANS AT ALBANY TO GIVE NEW-YORK HOME RULE.

printed letter to all the Republican members of the Senate and Assembly of this State on the subject of the recent State election. He says that the Republican de-feat was caused by the adverse majority in this city, where the Republican vote for the State ticket fell to 60,000, and that this was largely due to the belief among most of the foreign-born, and many of the native veters who formerly acted with t e Republican party, that the latter throughout the State cares nothing fer the city's interests; that a large part of the city is virtually denied representation; that taxation has been arranged unfairly so as to benefit that taxation has been arranged unfairly so as to become other districts of the State; that laws designed to take for the use of the State excise memoys which belong to the city are adopted by the party cancus; that "much of the time of each isofislative seasion is devoted by the party representatives to arranging schemes for improving by force of attute the merals of the city, which are, however, carefully worled so as not to apply to the districts which those gentlemen themselves represent."

Mr. Fitch adds that it is said that the Lacislature will pass the mest enthusiantle indorsement of Home Rule in

Mr. Fitch adds that it is said that the Lacinature was the most enthinsiastic indorsement of House Rule in Ireland, but will not give to the chief city of the country as much control over its own affairs a -is allowed to the smallest village in the State. He declares that more votes can be got here for the Republican party by treating the city fairly thus by any combination or by the nomination of any particular candinats. He asks each Republican legislator to waith carefully the subjects thus brought to their attention.

Word was received here by letter on Friday from State Senator J. Sloat Fassett of Elmira, announcing his fnability to be in Albany this week at the opening of the Assembly. He has been laid up with the pleurisy for two v eks and as soon as he is able to travel will go to Old Point Comfort to recuperate. He copes to be in his place in the Senate by the 10th or

15th of January. State Senator Henry R. Low has been confined to the house in this city for five days with a chronic difficulty. He expects to be in Albany to-morrow in time to attend the Senate caucus, but is by no means cer tain that his malady will permit him to travel. Senafor Low's name is preminently mentioned for the been generally conceded that he would be elected. aise a complication over the matter.

city vesterday. He says he has told all the candidates city yesterday. He says he has told all the candidates for Speaker that they can see him there. "If there is a contest for the piace, I shall be with my friends, as I have always been," he said. "But I have not pledged myself to any one,"

State Senator William H. Robertson, of Katonah, said: "I am not committed in any way as to the organization of the Senate. I hold myself entirely free to act as I think best for the interests of the people and the Republican party. Yes. Mr. Low is talked about for president pro tem. He would not stand it to have his friends elect Fassett over his head."

A WIDESPREAD SNOWSTORM.

WEST AND EAST UNDER A BLANKET. TRAINS EVERYWHERE DELAY D-STREET TRAVEL

IMPEDED IN CHI AGO. ere'sy morning still raged to-day. The snowfall, althoug a continuous, was light, but this drifted badly, the win! being strong. About nine inches of snow have fallen. Trains on all the roads throughout the Northwest were nere or less delayed. On the Chicago, Burlington and doned. On all the other roads trains are several hours late. Freight trains on the Minnesota and Northwestern road all trains have been discontinued. The East-bound limited on the Northern Pacific was blockaded near Me Muneapolis the street cars and the "Motor" line have

HEAVY WEATHER FOR SHIPPING. NewPost, Dec. 31 .- The schooner Mary A. Drury, o Boston, is ashore on Point Judith. She was bound from Norfolk for Provinence, with coal. She sprung a leak

and was run ashore to prevent her sinking.

The bark J. D. Peters, Captain Lane, has just arrived here from Buenos Ayres by way of Barbadoes, seventy-five days, in ballast. She is bound to New-Yerk. She reports heavy weather and the loss of sails. She was twelve days coming from Capb Hatteras.

LEAVINFORT, Iowa, Dec. 31.—A heavy snow sterm has been raging for twelve hours. Over twelve inches of snow have fallen. Freight trains have been generally abandoned, and passenger trains were drawn by two locomorives. On the Eastand West lines travel was not badly affected, but on the North and South roads trains

Dunique, Iswa, Dec. 31.—Another blizzard raged here for the last twenty-bur hours. All their light trains were abantoned, and the passenger trains werked along with double engines and snew ploagus, making little progress. The situation is worse than in the recent stora. The present one extends clear acress the State, and is more violent beyond Fort Dodge than on this side. The Southern trains are expected to arrive without losing much time. The mercury is above zero.

Chicago, Dec. 37.—The blizzard that howled in this city yesterday afternoon drove almosteverybody off the streets and searly blocksaed traffic throushout the city. Street cars struggled along at long intervals early in the evening. The mails were nearly all behird time from four to five hours. The streets were descried at locklets. At that hour the intensity of the storm was almost unprecedented. The wind shifted into the East and was blowing at the rate of thirty miles an hour. Suburban trains were also greatly delayed and at one time completely blocked by drifts at Thirty-dith-st.

DROWNED DURING A SNOW STORM. Three men were drowned from a seew of the New-York Street Clearing Department in Gravesend Bay being discovered bottom up near the stake where i was moored. The three men were John and Peter Mullahy, living at N. 652 East Sixteenth-st., and a man named Hughes. It is believed that the three men were asleep when the scow capsized and that their bodies are still fast in the scow. Divors will endeavor to ascertain this fact.

FREEZING TO DEATH IN THE WOODS. INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 31 (Special)—Mrs. Mary M. Basley, the wife of a prosperous old farmer living near Maywood, was found in the woods near this city this morning, frozen to death. On last Wednesday evening she had visited the family of her son-in-law near he city and in the afternoon started to walk home. It is supposed that she lost her way and darkness coming on she wandered into the woods where she died.

INTENSELY COLD WEATHER IN CANADA. OITAWA, Dec. 31.—Cold weather is prevailing through ut this section of the country. According to reports received here to day the temperature ranges from 20 to 36 degrees below zero.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 31 (Special).—The Delaware River above this city is solidly frezen ever and ice yachts were out this morning. The ferryboate between Bristol and Burlington have ceased running and people cross safely on the les. The river in frost of the city is cross safely on the los. The river in front of the city is full of fleating los and if the cold weather continues a few days lenger navigation will stop. The city los-beats have gens into commission and will keep the channel open for incoming vessels. The Schuylkill River is slee sellidly frozen ever and skaters were in abundance on its smooth surface te-day.

James H. Foster, a young relative of sx-Controller Allan Campbell, who is visiting Mr. Campbell at his home, No. 125 Lexington-ave. was arrested at half past 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon by Officer Henry W. Dyer, of the Park Police, for disorderly conduct at the entrance of the Brooklyn Bridge. He was taken to the Oak Street Station and locked up until half past 10, when Mr. Campbell appeared and gave bonds for his appearance at the Tombs this morning. Mr. Foster was not intoxicated and was entirely at a loss to account for his arrest. He is a great grandson of ex-President Tyler.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Dec. S1.—A party of hunters near Egg Harbor City found the skeleton of a man in the woods at or near Sullivan's Mills. A gun was found lying by the side of the body. Dr. Boyson gave the opinion that a gunshot wound had been inflicted near the base of the skull, and that in all probability the body and lain there at least two years.

PRICE THREE CENTS

HURLED INTO FRAGMENTS.

FATAL AND TERRIFIC GAS-WORKS EXPLO-

N ENGINE-HOUSE OF THE EQUITABLE COMPANY PLIES TO BITS WITH A BANG-THE CAUSE UNENOWN-ONE MAN KILLED, ONE SEVERELY WOUNDED AND MANY CUT BY PLY-

A terrific explosion, heard in nearly every per of the city at ten minutes post 11 o'clock last night, broke thousands of window panes and blow in the doors of several buildings near test first-st. For a few minutes the consternation prevailed in the neighbor was at first supposed that one or more of the Gr arge tanks of the Equitable Gas Company, cast o First-ave., between Forty-first and Fortyets., had blown up and there was a fear that 11 other tanks would explode.

An alarm of fire sent from a convenient bon catled several companies of firemen and the rece tion. The police and firemen were the first per who had the courage to go near the found the engine-house in rains. The builds been two stories high with a frontage of 50 feet on Forty-first-st., about 100 feet east of First rections and the wooden beams of the floors and roof were scattered far and w place where the eugine house had stood. A strong smell of gas pervaded the place and made ap proach to the rains dangerous for a time.

WHERE THE FLYING TIMBERS WENT. the engine-house, but nearer the avenue, had been riddled by the explosion. Some timbers from the engine-house had gone clear through the meternouse, while the building was completely stripped of doors and windows. Other buildings of the gas company, fronting on the avenue, were batte badly on the east side.

The first man found by the firemen was Thomas Sheeban, the night watchman of the works. was unbart, but scared so sadiy that for a time he was speechless. He was in the meter-house his escape had been almost miracu He was finally able to say that he had been in the engine-house only a few minutes be ore, and had seen only Frank Plaisted, the engineer, in the building. The superintendent of the works soon made his appearance, refused to give any information to Captain Ryan, From other workmen in the buildings it was no certained that Plaisted probably was the only person in the engine-house at the time of the explo

One of the firemen, found a notebook with Plaisted's name on the fly-leaf in the runs. There was no doubt that the engineer had been cilled, although it was impossible to find a trace of his body. No other man employed about the works at that hour was missing, the superintendent

Sono.

Some of the fragments of the engine-house had been thrown across First-ave. A horse-cay which was passing Forty-first-st. was knocked off the rails by the shock and a brick broke the leg of James Kane, the driver. An ambulance carried the injured man to Bellevue Hoseital. The police heard that many persons in private houses on the west side of First-ave, had been hurt by prokes glass, but every man in the neighborhood appeared to be drunk, and there was no time to make a house-to-house inspection.

The can elof the explosion was a mystery, but the superintradent of the works expressed the opinion that the exhaust en zine, used for pumping gas into the tanks, had blown up. There was rumor that the engineer was drunk and that carries used for purping the explosion did not put out the gestingths in the neighborhood and it was said that the supply would not be interrupted. It was not possible o estimate the damage, which probably exceeds \$50,000 is the works.

WIDESPREAD ALAPM AT THE REPORT.

and heard all over the East Side from Fourteenth to above Seventy-fifth sts. and west as Sixth-ave. Passengers on elevated report above the noise of the train, and in occurring, at Fifty-seventh-st, there was almost a panie

in consequence, Houses a mile away from the scene were shaken as if by an earthquake. Even as iar downtown as Twenty-third-sh, win-dows rattled and chandeliers vibrated, to the great alarm of the occupants. Almost every pane of glass in the immediate neighborhood was to pieces. In First-ave., from Thirty-seventh to Forty-second sta, there did not seem to while in the block of five-story tenements directly opposite the works, between Forty first and

As soon as they recovered from their aston ishment the tenants began to protect themselves against the piercing cold. Washboards, clothing, and tin pistes were cafed into requisition, giving the front of the buildings a nightly picturesque apparatus.

was not a pane of glass unbroken, and in some in

About the worst wrecked place in the neighbor hood, however, was the liquor store kept by Owen Collins, at the northwest corner Owen Collins, at the northwest corner of Forty-first-st. and Third-ave, directly opposite the company's office. The big plate-gass windows were demotished and the pieces sent flying turough the store, which was at the time filled with a hilatious crowd of workingamen. The volley of broken glass struck half a dozen of them, cutting one or two rather seriously.

Shortly after midnight another injured employe was found in the lower bouse. Like the rest, he refused to say anything. Captain Ryan asked his name, but the fellow, although beeding promety from a wound in the head, declined to give it. This irritated the captain so much that he told the officers to take the man to the station-house, and they took him.

tain so much that he fold the officers to take the man to the station-house, and they took him. Every one connected with the place scenned in mortal terror of saying a word to outsiders.

Later in the night it was reported that more than Plansted had been killed, but this was denied. At ail events it was stated by several familiar with the works that as least thirry men were employed there at night and of these only about a dozen could be found after the explosion.

CHOKING A MILLIONAIRE'S DAUGHTER DR. CONE, OF BROOKLYN, FOUND GUILTY OF AD SAULTING HIS WIFE.

Dr. Thomas E. Cone, a well-known physician of No 271 Ninth-st., appeared in Justice Courtney' cours yesterday charged by his wife with assault. Mrs. Mary E. Cone is the daughter of William Cray, the

"I told him not to mention my father's many,
Mrs. Cone said. "Then he seized me by the thread
dragged me into an adjoining room, threw me on the
bed and choked me. The servant girl rushed in an
dragged him off."

"Bid you scream?" asked Judge Courtney,
"I tried to, when I felt that I was being choked."

"Mary," asked her husband, "aren't you many,
asked her husband, "aren't you me
out you."

"You cut me more than once," replied him. Compositively.

"You cut me more than once," replied in positively.

"Did you have any gurgling in the throat fauly in breathing."

"Yes I did."

Mary Kerwin the cervant girl said that the Ductor chading his wits. The children wing and begging him not to kill their mechar, she dragged the Ductor away, Mrs. Upne's bruised and him and her nech screatched. Come took the witness stand and demod that choked his wife. He pushed her, he caid, ut throat and she fell on the bead, where sembler to believe berealt challed.

Justice Courtney found Dr. Come guilty of